

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
NOV 17 2004

LAW OFFICES
KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.
Intellectual Property Law

LUKE A. KILYK* (PA, DC)
LEONARD D. BOWERSOX
ARASH BEHRAVESH* (MA)
JASBIR SINGH
MATTHEW T. GILL
RALPH T. WEBB* (DC, TX, LA)

53 A East Lee Street
WARRENTON, VA 20186

TEL.: (540) 428-1701
FAC.: (540) 428-1720
(540) 428-1721

FAIRFAX OFFICE
3603-E Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Email: lkilyk@kbpattentlaw.com
Website: <http://www.kbpattentlaw.com>

Of Counsel:
WILLIAM CHARLES JAMISON
WILLIAM O. TROUSDELL* (PA, DC)

*Admitted only in states indicated

PLEASE DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE TO OUR WARRENTON OFFICE

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: November 17, 2004

TO: Examiner Andrew L. Oltmans
Group Art Unit 1742
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/042,549
For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS
AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME
Our Ref.: CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01)

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. *LK*

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-703-872-9306

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 28

Items Attached: Amendment -- 24 pages
Petition for a 4-Month Extension of Time -- 1 page
Fee Transmittal -- 1 page
Request for Continued Examination -- 1 page

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9306 on November 17, 2004.

Donald S. Prater
Name

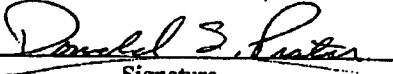
Donald S. Prater
Signature

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS MESSAGE IS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED. This message may also be an attorney/client communication which is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by calling us collect and return the original message to us at the above address by mail. Thank you.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
NOV 17 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9306 on November 17, 2004.

Donald S. Prater
Name (Print)


Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michaluk)	Examiner: Andrew L. Oltmans
)	
Application Number: 10/042,549)	Group Art Unit: 1742
)	
Filed: January 9, 2002)	Confirmation No.: 5470
)	
Docket No.: CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01))	

For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 17, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is a Submission accompanying a Request for Continued Examination as defined in 37 CFR 1.114 and is in response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2003 in the above-identified application. The application is currently pending by virtue of a Notice of Appeal filed on May 17, 2004, together with a three month extension of time, the Notice of Appeal establishing an extendible due date of July 17, 2004 for filing an appeal brief, which due date is extended to November 17, 2004 by the filing herewith of a Petition for a Four-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee.

The amendments to the specification begin at page 2 of this paper.

The amendments to the claims begin at page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin at page 13 of this paper.